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Youth Beat Jan. 1969

First Baptist Church Shelby

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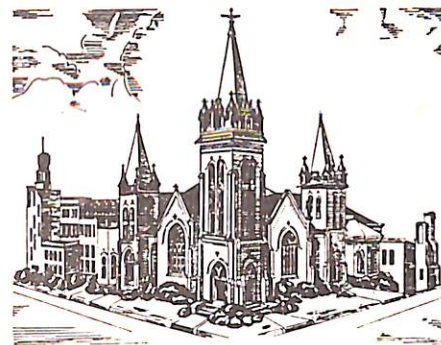
The First Baptist

YOUTH BEAT

Published by The Youth Division of First Baptist Church

Shelby, N. C.

Assoc. Pastor Roland Leath—Music Minister Van Ramsey—Youth Minister Mel Doughty



Vol. 5

January, 1969

No. 3

REFLECTIONS

Remember when . . .
. . . we had a "Wild, Wild West" Valentine banquet including a charcoaled steak?
. . . the Generation didn't have a name, didn't use mikes and didn't even dress alike?
. . . we had happenings in the coffee house?
. . . "Good News" was presented, and presented, and presented?
. . . the King's Players had weekly meetings?
. . . Youth Prayer meeting was held in the T.E.L. classroom?
. . . our Youth Camp service on Friday night at Camp Lurecrest proved that "He was more than just a God who didn't care, who lived away up there"?
. . . Mr. Ramsey didn't have a turtleneck?
. . . the drama group presented "Where Love Is" and "The Least of These" at the State B.T.U. Convention in Raleigh?
. . . Pamela and Paige arrived?
. . . Mel drove a white Ford?
. . . The Chapel Choir toured Florida?
. . . the choir had a day off in Daytona Beach.
. . . "Singout" got a news spot on WBTV?
. . . school started and SHS was infested with new sophs?
. . . we had a cool youth retreat at Crestridge? (br-r-r!)
. . . there was an 8:30 A.M. service on Sunday morning?
. . . the Senior High Choir went caroling at Jim Frazier's house and some of the carolers thought they had frostbite?
. . . there was a Chapel Choir banquet?
. . . they used to give S's and U's on report cards?
. . . the choir sang the "Hallelujah Chorus" to the City of Shelby at 8:30 P.M. on December

TEEN CHALLENGE

THE RUN AWAY GENERATION
"presented by "David Wilkerson
Youth Crusades in Co-Operation
with Teen Challenges"

A full Color Documentary . . .
Runaway Kid . . . LSD Crash Party . . . Marijuana . . . Hippies who found "The Ultimate Meaning" . . . a movie about the work being done at Teen Challenge in New York City. The movie and testimony of Victor Torres will be given on January 14 at 7:00 in the church sanctuary. Victor is one of the young men who was saved and has since gone to seminary. This will be a most unusual and challenging evening.

Teen Challenge, is a non-profit, church-related organization which, by means of a spiritual emphasis, seeks to give new and meaningful direction to the lives of drug addicts, alcoholics, prostitutes, members of teen gangs and juvenile delinquents. In addition, educational programs utilizing films, crusades, radio, tapes records, books and tracts keep young people from involvement with drugs.

You may wonder how does Teen Challenge function? First of all, its staff members have learned the special language of the addicts, the gangs, etc. visit them in their hangouts, in hospitals and jails and communicate effectively with them. Individuals who sincerely desire help are invited to Teen Challenge, in Brooklyn, N. Y. for an introduction to the One who has the power to change their lives. Withdrawal from drugs is accomplished without medication.

22?

. . . "Tiger Ed" put a little color into the music department of FBC (when VHR sang "Blue Christmas")?

. . . Mel didn't have any problems?

. . . it was 1968 instead of 1969?

Teen Challenge

Fellowship

For

Senior High

At

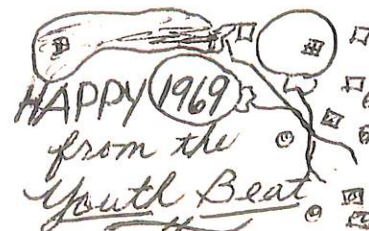
Mel's

Sunday, Jan. 12

After Church

Rehabilitation is achieved through a spiritual approach with Bible classes, chapel prayer, and devotion as part of the daily schedule. The King's Players will present EVERYMAN there on their Easter tour.

The following books may be checked out in the Youth Minister's office dealing with the work of Teen Challenge. Run Baby Run; The Little People; Debs; Dolls and Dope; Parents on Trial; Twelve Angels from Hell; and The Cross and the Switchblade. Also several tracts that are used in their ministry may be read in a short period of time.



EDITORIAL

We have just stepped through the door into a new year. We are filled with anticipation, wondering what it holds for us. It seems ironic that we can tell where a comet will appear in a thousand years, but not where we shall be tomorrow.

How many things will we experience that we've never experienced before? On whom will we lean in trials and troubles? If this year is to be one of accomplishment, where do we begin?

Perhaps the best place to begin would be with the submitting of ourselves to God. Sometimes we're so busy looking for someone to call a friend—someone to understand us and listen—that we can't even see the "perfect friend" who has promised His eternal presence. Think back over all the failures and mistakes made during the past year. Would things have been the same if we have forgotten the big "I" and depended more on God? He hasn't promised to keep us from troubles, but He has promised to see us through them.

As Theodore L. Cuyler stated: "The new year is upon us with new duties, new conflicts, new trials and new opportunities. Start on the journey with Jesus—to walk with Him, to work for Him, to win souls for Him. A happy year it will be to those who, through every path of trial or up every hill or difficulty, or over every sunny height, march on in closest fellowship with Jesus, and who will determine that, come what may, they have Christ every day."

Why not try a total dependence on Christ this year? We've got nothing to lose.

YOUTH BEAT STAFF

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WHAT WILL YOU DO?

My, my, my! Another year has come and gone. Another year with the usual amount of blemishes, good times, laughs, frowns, tears, and so on. Now, it is no longer 1968. It is 1969.

Another year. What in the world will you do with it? As it stands now, it is new; fresh; clean; mysterious. Who knows what will slip through your fingers in 1969. Maybe 1969 will be the best year of your life—maybe it will be the worst. It could even be the last year of your life. You have 365 days to use as you see best. Will you sit back and wait for some of those days to pass? Have you already filled some of those days with things that you say you'll do—tomorrow.

To some of you, 1969 will mean a big step upwards. Some of you will graduate from high school in 1969. Perhaps some will even

graduate from college this year. Our nation will possibly put a man on the moon this year. It is easy to see that 1969 won't be easily forgotten.

Do you expect 1969 to be a boring year? If so, stop and think. To a Christian, there is no such thing as a "boring" year. A Christian sees life in a different light—as if each day ;each week ;each year were a gift from God, filled with exciting opportunities to serve Him.

There you have it. The opportunities are all around you. This can be a year of service if you resolve to be a servant in your heart. This can be a year of sacrifice if you will "let go and let God." 1969 can be the greatest year for the youth of our church. The greatest year.

What are you going to do about it?

TWO LITTLE WORDS

The **Youth Beat** staff wishes to express their thanks and gratitude to the three all-important members of the FBC staff, who have meant a great deal to our young people—Mel Doughty, Van Ramsey, and Roland Leath.

First of all, we would like to thank Mel for being the best Youth Minister we could ever hope to have. Mel speaks to us in our own language about the really important issues of life, and he is dedicated to the youth—to us. Mel has a way of understanding us too, no matter how big a mess we're in. That's why he is so good at individual counseling. Mel also puts up with such organizations as Youth Bible Study, Ambassadors, Young People's Sunday School, Speech Choirs, **Youth Beat**, Jr. and Sr. High Youth Councils, and the various drama groups.

Mel is also in charge of all the Youth Camps and Retreats where we get so much of our inspiration. In fact, Mel is usually the main source of our inspiration.

Our able Youth Minister also helps seniors select the colleges they will attend and sometimes he even takes young people to visit the colleges of their choice. In spite of these activities, however, Mel usually has time to talk with anybody who just happens to stop by his office for nothing or everything. To sum it up, Mel cares. We have two little words for this great man—**thank you**, Mel, for caring.

We also extend sincere thanks to Van Ramsey. Mr. Ramsey, be-

sides selecting all the church music, has to first learn it for himself. Then he teaches it to the various choirs ranging from beginners to adults, not excluding special groups such as the Generation and Triple Trio. He also has an extra amount of patience with the youth choirs . . . !

Mr. Ramsey has had a big part in the past Youth Camps as general song director and leader of the music conferences or "sing-cuts." He has also taken the Senior High Choir on a tour of Florida and Georgia. He has produced dynamic programs for public performance, such as "Good News" and "Singout for Freedom" which have proven to be a great service to our community. Although these performances are now "water under the bridge", we should continually thank Mr. Ramsey for his endurance through all those long rehearsals and for making us w to live what we sing. Thank you, Mr. Ramsey, for trying to "change this land!"

Our thank yous wouldn't be complete without thanking a truly great man who has devoted his life to God's service in our church for the past 20 years—Rev. Roland Leath. He is minister of education and assistant pastor in our church. Besides preparing the Sunday worship services and the Wednesday prayer services, Mr. Leath also performs weddings, funerals and other religious ceremonies. He always seems to find time to visit all of our known sick mem-

Continued On Page 4

From A College Freshman

College life wasn't really like anything I had expected or anticipated. It was a complete change from high school and all I had been accustomed to. Meeting new people and forming friendships, getting used to a new "home" and roommate and battling the pressures of college life and work were only a few of the changes I met. I think more happened to me in the first four months of college than had happened to me in the past year or two.

I found I was on my own and had more freedom than ever before. I could decide if I wanted to attend class on a certain day, if I wanted to date a certain person, if I wanted to go to church on a certain Sunday, or if I wanted to become involved in BSU or other campus organizations. It was all up to me. I was glad my past habits and decisions made it easier for me to make decisions now.

And of course there was the ever-present homesickness I had to overcome. But I feel that I have not only changed some at college but, more importantly, have learned a lot. It takes dedication of purpose to keep on going. It isn't too early to begin to be dedicated to whatever you do. Put dedication in your church and high school work and it will come much easier in college.

DRAMA HIGHLIGHTS

"Everyman" has been cast and the young people who will be working with this drama promise to do a good job. The group's goal is having the play ready for presentation in the Drama Spectrum in March and for Easter.

The Drama Spectrum has been slated for March 21-23 and the cost will be \$15.00. This spectrum is to include several churches and will be held at Ridgecrest. At this spectrum, several types of plays will be presented, conferences will be held and of course, there will be time for fun and skits. Bob Oldenburg, the writer of "Good News" and Dorothy Murphree, a playwright, will be featured conference leaders.

The drama, "The People Vs. Christ" also has been worked up and presented recently. The cast includes Sarah Sullivan, Dan Sullivan (lighting), Mike Wall and Steve Jolly.

A New Twain Of Thought



It's nearly New Year's Eve, and all of us that are a little less than angelic are eyeing the eggnog that isn't all pure eggnog! We're climbing out of our Christmas hangovers and climbing into New Year ones . . . ah, well, who cares? . . . actually, I can't drink at all. I get high on strong salad dressing. (If anyone wonders who wrote this article of oddities, it's That Woman. That Woman is the fastest moving female mechanism in Shelby . . . just ask T. H. Aiken.)

In the past few days, I have been befriended by an interesting little green frog who is in the habit of quoting Mark Twain from seven-thirty until eight every morning. He has said some things that

SR. HIGH NEWS

Life at Shelby High is going to be even busier this new year of 1969. Exams are scheduled for January 17, 20, and 21. So until then every student will be cramming, jamming, and packing every ounce of book-learning they have been given this semester. For many a new experience awaits. But to many more, well . . . let's just say that exam-time is **not** the favorite time of the year.

But get back to more familiar and happier news of the sports. The Lions' basketball team have begun their season with sizeable victories over Crest, Cherryville, and Central. The Lionesses are improving with every game. Still, the main thing our players need now is our good 'ole school spirit. Let's show the teams this new year that our school has **SOUL!**

are profoundly brilliant, and it might be good if all you love children looked at them before the New Year wanders in (!)

. . . "Adam and Eve had many advantages, but the principal one was that they escaped teething."

. . . "His ignorance covered the whole earth like a blanket and there was hardly a hole in it anywhere."

. . . "Man is the only animal that blushes. Or needs to."

. . . "Nothing so needs reforming as other people's habits."

. . . "I have traveled more than anyone else, and I have noticed that even the angels speak English with an accent."

. . . "It's better to keep your mouth shut and appear stupid than to open it and remove all doubt."

. . . "Nothing is so ignorant as a man's left hand, except a lady's watch."

. . . "I have noticed my conscience for many years, and I know it is more trouble and bother to me than anything else I started with."

. . . "Carlyle said, 'A lie cannot live' It shows that he did not know how to tell them."

. . . "My mother had a great deal of trouble with me but I think she enjoyed it."

. . . "He imagined that he was in love with her, whereas I think she did the imagining for him."

. . . "Few of us can stand prosperity. Another man's, I mean."

And now That Woman, who believes that at long last she has done something right, has given you all these little jewels which you are now so thoughtfully taking to heart. She has one question—a'so a Mark Twain Original—

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it and see me going mad before your face with suspense??"

ANYWAY—from that woman, and from the rest of us frogs, zilches, and other unidentified creatures, A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YA!!

MAKE
PLANS NOW
TO ATTEND THE
FEBRUARY SWEET-
HEART BANQUET!

Action Ambassadors

FBC's Royal Ambassadors performed outstanding services at the Thanksgiving Teen Challenge Retreat held at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly last November. They are to be commended for their faithfulness and willingness to work. This group of boys will also perform various services at the Drama Spectrum to be held at Ridgecrest in March.

The Royal Ambassadors' newspaper drive has proven to be successful. Already they have raised \$50 for their work. The money will be used for organizational expenses encountered by the boys.

Plans are now formulating for our R.A. group to participate in the State Royal Ambassador Congress to be held at a later date. The FBC chapter will definitely send a group of boys to act as delegates. The Ambassadors deserve our prayer support as they carry out these activities.

I SPY

The Christmas season meant a lot of rest for some, but not for the F.B.C. spy. His longest working hours came last year around December 25th. Disguised as wrapping paper, bows, tinsel, presents and even water for Christmas trees, he reaped many goodies from his long hours of spying.

According to the spy:

Steve Jolly got a Georgia Christmas belle in his stocking.

Kathy Panther found a **Youth Beat** under her tree, with a pink cow that works!

Susan McDonald was observed singing to a man in the street one night last December around 10:15. On that same night, Carol Smith hijacked a station wagon at the corner of DeKalb Street and East Dixon Boulevard. The station wagon did not go to Cuba—it only went to Eastview Street.

The spy also checked a bit over on Westover Terrace, disguised as a pair of purple "Krazy Kats" bedroom shoes, and discovered a tremendous chicken laying egg in Patty McBrayer's chimney. It is reported that she was all broken out over the incident.

Debbie Edney was also spied

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Shelby, N. C.

Permit No. 25

JR. HIGH NEWS

The Shelby Junior High Blue Devils opened their basketball season when they defeated Arlington of Gastonia by a slight margin of four points in a 36-32 win. The Baby Blue Devils followed suit when they started their season with a 36-15 win over the Arlington J.V.'s.

The Junior High Choir went caroling on December 17th. We went to each house to sing. Most of the time, due to Christmas parties and ball games, we ended up singing to empty houses.

There were many reasons that the Junior High wanted to go caroling. One reason was that we wanted to have someone to sing to. At least when our "victims" were at home, the only place they could go would be next door, and we could always go next door, too.

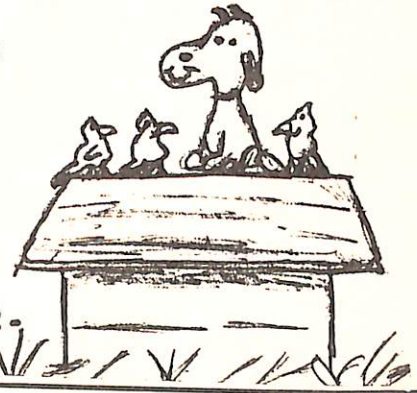
Kidding aside, the carolers got something from their activity besides cold hands and cold feet.

They got satisfaction that they were helping to spread Christmas cheer in a troubled world. The group wishes to express their sincere thanks to all who made their trip possible.

As we now start a new year as a nation, as a church and as individuals, may we remember what the Bible simply states in Philippians 4:6 — Don't worry about anything, tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers."

*Congratulations
to Susan
McDonald
on "OUTSTANDING
TEENS OF AMERICA"
nomination!*

*Happiness
is
getting
together
with
your friends.*



TWO LITTLE WORDS

Continued From Page 2

bers in the hospitals, as well as all prospective and new church members. He handles much of the charity goods distribution of our

placing an intense jet of air on a poor little candle at the Chapel Choir banquet.

At the writing of this article, the spy boldly observed a thrilling spectacle—wall-to-wall Steve Jolly in a living room at 521 Gold Street. The immediate cause was a throng of eighth grade spy guards. Great job, guards!

And now, the spy silently slips into the wide world of U.S. (Unidentified Spies), wishing one and all a Happy New Year and hoping that you will continue to do strange things for him to record in the **Youth Beat**.

church, and he is of much help to those of our church with spiritual problems.

The youth of our church deeply appreciate the active part he has played in all of the annual youth camps held by our church. At camp, his stirring renditions of religious piano music have drawn all of us closer to God.

We could not have three more able or more capable men than Mel Doughty, Van Ramsey and Roland Leath. It makes all of us feel good to know that these three men are working to make this world a better place. So, to Mel, Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Leath, we would like to say two little words that have been used many times and many ways, with much sincerity—**thank you**.

HUBBARD HAMRICK
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